

What is claimed is:

1. A locking device for a disk-retaining hub configured to retain a disk-shaped item of recorded media; the locking device comprising:
 - 5 a base part; and
 - a cover part configured to lock to the base part, the cover part being configured to prevent a disk from being removed from the disk-retaining hub when the cover part is locked to the base part; and
 - the base part has a quick connect feature for quick connection to a
 - 10 bottom wall of a storage container base when inserted into a receptacle in the bottom wall.
2. A locking device as set forth in claim 1, wherein the base part has a stop portion for engaging an axially outwardly facing surface of the bottom wall of the
- 15 container when inserted into the receptacle.
3. A locking device as set forth in claim 1 or claim 2, wherein the stop portion comprises an radially outwardly extending portion which engages the axially outwardly facing surface of the bottom wall of the container when inserted
- 20 into the receptacle.
4. A locking device as set forth in any preceding claim, wherein the cover part has a post and the base part has a female locking component for releasably engaging the post.
- 25 5. A locking device as set forth in any preceding claim wherein the female locking component is a ball and clutch mechanism.
6. A locking device as set forth in any preceding claim wherein the ball and
- 30 clutch mechanism is magnetically operated to release the post.

7. A storage container with the locking device of any preceding claim,
wherein the storage container includes a base, a lid cooperating with the base to
form a chamber for the disk when the lid is closed on the base, and a hub on the
base configured to hold the disk on the hub in a manner that allows removal of
5 the disk from the hub and replacement of the disk on the hub.

8. A storage container and locking device as set forth in any proceeding
claim, wherein the receptacle is formed by an interior surface of the hub.

10 9. A storage container and locking device as set forth in any proceeding
claim, wherein the base inserts into the receptacle defined by the hub.

10. A storage container and locking device as set forth in any proceeding
claim, wherein the quick connect feature includes a retention device on the hub
15 and a cooperative retention device on the base.

11. A storage container and locking device as set forth in any proceeding
claim, wherein the receptacle opens to an exterior side of the bottom wall for
insertion of the base part therein from outside the container base.

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12. A locking device for a disk-retaining hub configured to retain a
disk-shaped item of recorded media; the locking device comprising:
a female part; and
a male part configured to lock to the female part, the male part
25 having a head and a post extending from the head, the head being
configured to prevent a disk from being removed from the disk-retaining
hub when the head is locked to the base; and
the female part have a quick connect feature for quick connection
to a bottom wall of a storage container base when inserted into a
30 receptacle in the bottom wall from outside the container base.

13. A storage container with a locking device for a disk, the storage container including a base, a lid cooperating with the base to form a chamber for the disk when the lid is closed on the base, and a hub on the base configured to hold the disk on the hub in a manner that allows removal of the disk from the hub and
5 replacement of the disk on the hub; and the locking device including a female part, and a male part configured to lock to the female part, the male part having a head and a post extending from the head, the head being configured to prevent a disk from being removed from the disk-retaining hub when the head is locked to the base, and the head be dimensioned to fit within the chamber when
10 the lid is closed on the base.

14. A storage container and locking device as set forth in claim 13, wherein the female part is quick-connected in a receptacle in the base.

15. A method for renting a recorded media disk, comprising the steps of:
selecting at a retail establishment a storage container having a disk-retaining hub;
selecting a locking device including a female part, and a male part configured to lock to the female part, the male part having a head and a
20 post extending from the head;
inserting the female part of the locking device into a receptacle in a base of the storage container;
placing the recorded media disk on the hub; and
inserting the male part into the female part with the recorded
25 media disk being trapped between the head of the male part and the base of the storage container.

16. A method of locking a recorded media disk to a hub within a storage container, the storage container including a base, a lid cooperating with the base
30 to form a chamber for the disk when the lid is closed on the base, the method comprising the steps of :

quick connecting a base part to the hub from outside the container base, the base part having a first locking component; and

locking a cover part onto the base part from inside the container base, the cover part having a second locking component cooperative with the first locking
5 component of the base.

17. A method as set forth in claim 16, wherein locking the cover part onto the base part includes engaging a post of the cover part with a female locking component of the base part.

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